



## ALLEN COUNTY

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Family & Consumer Sciences

# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY

### OUR FOCUS

► Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Allen County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

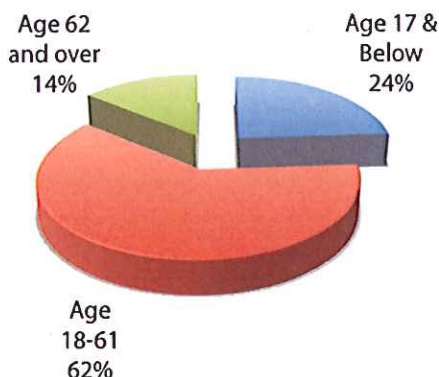
- Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices**
- Nurturing Families**
- Embracing Life as You Age**
- Securing Financial Stability**
- Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities**
- Accessing Nutritious Food**
- Empowering Community Leaders**

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **6,947** contacts with Allen County families during 2008-2009.<sup>1</sup>

### OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group<sup>2</sup> (n=19,090)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **19,090**.<sup>2</sup> The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.



### SPOTLIGHT ON...

## NURTURING FAMILIES

In response to the recent economic recession, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension worked to address the devastating mental and emotional health pressures on individuals and families in the county. The “Blue to You” pilot curriculum was implemented with five focus groups which totaled 105 participants. 76% of men increased knowledge regarding signs and symptoms of depression, 95% now know the different types of treatment, and 78% now know how to help other men with depression. All of the women who participated became aware of depression signs and symptoms, and 90% now know where to get help for a man with depression. 88% of teen participants now know how to help another teen with depression, 86% know where to access community help, and 90% increased knowledge regarding combination therapy.<sup>1</sup>



## OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Allen County was **15.4%**.<sup>3</sup>

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Allen County, **1.69%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **2.67%**.<sup>4</sup> In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **82** foreclosures were filed.<sup>5</sup>

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Allen County, **13%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.<sup>6</sup>

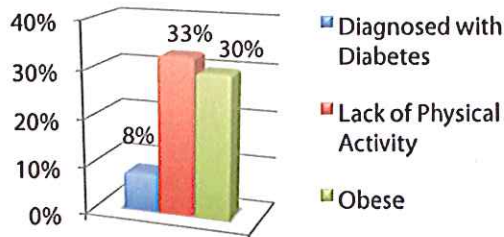
### As a result of participation in Allen County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

- **395** people were involved in significant community issues.
- **325** people increase their knowledge of governmental process.
- **256** people expanded their knowledge of economic development.

## OUR HEALTH

► The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Allen County.

Figure 2. Health Risks.<sup>6</sup>



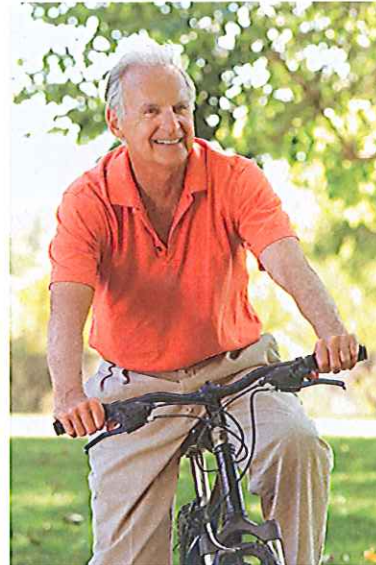
### As a result of participation in Allen County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

- **596** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **427** people increased knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **330** people developed skills to access affordable food.

## OUR FAMILIES

► Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Allen County families can be described as follows:<sup>2</sup>

- **5,110** families reside in the county.
- **678** families (**13.2%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$36,815**.
- **143** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **1,178** people in Allen County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$227.65** per month.<sup>7</sup>

In the county, **84** children live in out-of-home care.<sup>8</sup> In 2005, there were **97** incidents of adult abuse and **107** incidents of child abuse.<sup>9</sup>

### As a result of participation in Allen County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

- **1,467** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **475** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **635** adults and youth improved practical living skills.

### SOURCES

- <sup>1</sup> Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impacting Reporting, FY2009.
- <sup>2</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.
- <sup>3</sup> Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, August 2009.
- <sup>4</sup> TransUnion LLC, Trend Data, Quarter 1 2009.
- <sup>5</sup> Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, November, 2009.
- <sup>6</sup> Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.
- <sup>7</sup> Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, June 2008.
- <sup>8</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2005.
- <sup>9</sup> Kentucky Department for Public Health, County Health Priorities, 2004.